

MONTANA

Website: <http://sos.mt.gov/css/ELB/Contents.asp>

Email: soselection@mt.gov

Link to state election website is also available through FVAP website at www.fvap.gov

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

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MONTANA

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. **Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.**

FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION

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REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)	
1. I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM (mark only one):	
<input type="checkbox"/> (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY	
<input type="checkbox"/> (c) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY	
2. MY INFORMATION (Required)	
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)	
SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., III, etc.)	
b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)	
c. SEX	d. RACE
<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	e. DATE OF BIRTH
	f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
	g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)	
i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)	
j. EMAIL ADDRESS	
3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (For military, use legal residence. For overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.) (Required)	
a. NUMBER AND STREET (Cannot be a P.O. Box)	
b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE	
c. COUNTY	
d. STATE	
e. ZIP CODE	
4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS	
a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Where I live now) (Required)	
b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (Complete 4.b. only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4.a.)	
c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY:	
<input type="checkbox"/> MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> FAX <input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL	
5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):	
6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots — see instructions for Block 6 paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)	
7. AFFIRMATION (required)	
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:	
1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and	
2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and	
3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and	
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and	
5. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and	
6. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.	
I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.	
Signed: _____ Date: _____	
(Witness/Notary and address (if required)) _____ Date: _____	

Circled letters on the form above correspond to the instructions on the following page. **You must complete all shaded areas.**

I. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR FPCA

A Your Montana Driver's License number OR, only if you do not have a Montana driver's license number, the last four digits of your Social Security number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identifications, the State shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.

B Provide the complete street address of your Montana voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. For example: "on Highway ____, 2 miles past Highway ____, across the street from the ____ gas station." This address must be different from the one provided in Block 4 and must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.

C Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent - usually your current mailing address. It must be different from the address you provided in Block 3.

D See Section II.E or III.E.

E You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming the information is true and correct.

II. UNIFORMED SERVICES

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Montana and members of the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, and religious groups or welfare agencies assisting and officially attached to the Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents.

B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to your local election official early every year and whenever you change your mailing address (see Chapter 2).

To register and request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to the local County Election Administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election. You may only use the FWAB if you are outside the U.S. If the registration application is received less than 30 days before the election, the registration application will be processed for the next election.

If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot, your FPCA must be received by the County Election Administrator by noon on the day before the election.

To access the Montana Voter Information Pamphlet, link to the Montana state election website from www.fvap.gov.

C. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Voted ballot must arrive by **8:00 p.m. on election day**. Starting October 1, 2005, Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWAB) must be sent by 8:00 p.m. on election day, and received by the Monday after election day, in order to be counted. See Section II.F below and instructions in Chapter 2 for additional information on the FWAB.

Local election officials mail absentee ballots approximately 30 days before primary elections for Federal office and approximately 45 days before general elections for Federal office. For other elections, ballots are mailed approximately 20 days before the election.

D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Montana allows you to send the FPCA and FWAB for registration and absentee ballot by fax or email. After faxing or emailing, submit the form by mail.
- Montana allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax or email.
- Montana allows you to return the voted ballot by fax or email if your county of voting residence has the facility for voting by fax or email.

The following Montana counties currently have facilities for voting via fax: Big Horn, Broadwater, Carter, Cascade, Custer, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garfield, Golden Valley, Hill, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, McCone, Mineral, Missoula, Park, Powder River, Powell, Prairie, Ravalli, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sanders, Sheridan, Silverbow, Stillwater, Toole and Yellowstone. Residents of other Montana counties should use the mail. Check the on-line *Guide* at www.fvap.gov for updates on counties with faxing facilities.

Check with your County Election Administrator or the Montana state election website for counties that have facilities for voting via email.

Please refer to Appendix B for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. Use the following numbers:

DSN 223-5527
(703) 693-5527

1-800-368-8683

(from U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands only)

International toll-free fax numbers

(See inside back cover)

F. Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

The instructions in Chapter 2 of this *Guide* still apply for the FWAB except that the voter does not have to wait until he/she determines that the regular ballot will not be received (condition 3) to use the FWAB.

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWAB) must be sent by 8:00 p.m. on election day, and received by the Monday after election day, in order to be counted.

The FWAB will be counted if your request for a regular absentee ballot was received not later than 30 days before the election.

If you receive the regular ballot after returning the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the regular ballot. If both ballots are received by 8 p.m. on election day, only the regular ballot will be counted.

For further instructions on the FWAB see Chapter 2.

Instructions continue in Section IV: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens and residents of Montana, and overseas electors. The term “overseas elector” means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in Montana.

- Montana residents temporarily residing outside the U.S.
- overseas electors

B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

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For further instructions on the FWAB see Chapter 2.

Instructions continue in Section IV: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Late Registration

Honorably discharged military personnel and citizens terminated from employment outside the territorial limits of the U.S. following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election are still entitled to register up to noon on the day before the election.

B. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons currently incarcerated for a felony or found to be of unsound mind, as determined by a court, may not vote.

C. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is canceled if the voter fails to respond to certain confirmation mailings and fails to vote in two subsequent consecutive general elections for Federal office.

D. Action on Registration Requests

Notice of registration or denial is sent.

E. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, Montana shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

F. Action If Registration Is Denied

No provision exists for appeal of a denial of registration. If denial occurs, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian

counsel. Montana has an administrative procedure for filing complaints about the Federal election process.

G. Voting By Citizens Who Have Never Lived in the U.S.

U.S. citizens who have never resided in the U.S. but have a parent (grandparent) who is eligible to vote in Montana should contact the Secretary of State's office for information via the website: sos.mt.gov.

H. Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to the **County Election Administrator**, county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	Address	Zip Code
Beaverhead	County Election Administrator 2 South Pacific Street, #3 Dillon, MT	59725-2799
Big Horn	County Election Administrator PO Box 908 Hardin, MT	59034-0908
Blaine	County Election Administrator Box 278, Chinook, MT	59523-0278
Broadwater	County Election Administrator 515 Broadway Street Townsend, MT	59644-2397
Carbon	County Election Administrator Box 887 Red Lodge, MT	59068-0887
Carter	County Election Administrator Box 315 Ekalaka, MT	59324-0315
Cascade	County Election Administrator Box 2305 Great Falls, MT	59403-2305
Chouteau	County Election Administrator Box 459 Fort Benton, MT	59442-0459
Custer	County Election Administrator 1010 Main Miles City, MT	59301-3496
Daniels	County Election Administrator Box 247 Scobey, MT	59263-0247
Dawson	County Election Administrator 207 West Bell Glendive, MT	59330-1616
Deer Lodge	County Election Administrator 800 Main Anaconda, MT	59711-2950
Fallon	County Election Administrator Box 846 Baker, MT	59313-0846
Fergus	County Election Administrator 712 West Main Lewistown, MT	59457-2562
Flathead	County Election Administrator 800 South Main Kalispell, MT	59901-5435
Gallatin	County Election Administrator 311 W Main, Room 103 Bozeman, MT	59715-4502
Garfield	County Election Administrator Box 7, Jordan, MT	59337-0007
Glacier	County Election Administrator 512 East Main Cut Bank, MT	59427-3075
Golden Valley	County Election Administrator PO Box 10 Ryegate, MT	59074-0010

County	Address	Zip Code
Granite	County Election Administrator Box 925 Philipsburg, MT	59858-0925
Hill	County Election Administrator Courthouse Havre, MT	59501-3923
Jefferson	County Election Administrator Box H Boulder, MT	59632-0249
Judith Basin	County Election Administrator Box 427 Stanford, MT	59479-0427
Lake	County Election Administrator 106 4th Avenue East Polson, MT	59860-2125
Lewis and Clark	County Election Administrator Box 1721 Helena, MT	59624-1721
Liberty	County Election Administrator Box 459 Chester, MT	59522-0459
Lincoln	County Election Administrator 512 California Libby, MT	59923-1942
Madison	County Election Administrator Box 366 Virginia City, MT	59755-0366
McCone	County Election Administrator Box 199 Circle, MT	59215-0199
Meagher	County Election Administrator Box 309 White Sulphur Springs, MT	59645-0309
Mineral	County Election Administrator Box 550 Superior, MT	59872-0550
Missoula	County Election Administrator 200 W Broadway Missoula, MT	59802-4216
Musselshell	County Election Administrator 506 Main Roundup, MT	59072-2426
Park	County Election Administrator Box 1037 Livingston, MT	59047-1037
Petroleum	County Election Administrator Box 226 Winnett, MT	59087-0226
Phillips	County Election Administrator Box 360 Malta, MT	59538-0360
Pondera	County Election Administrator 20 4th Avenue SW Conrad, MT	59425-2383
Powder River	County Election Administrator Box 270 Broadus, MT	59317-0270
Powell	County Election Administrator 409 Missouri Deer Lodge, MT	59722-1078
Prairie	County Election Administrator Box 125 Terry, MT	59349-0125
Ravalli	County Election Administrator 215 S 4th Street, Suite C Hamilton, MT	59840-2703
Richland	County Election Administrator 201 West Main Sidney, MT	59270-4087
Roosevelt	County Election Administrator 400 2nd Avenue South Wolf Point, MT	59201-1600

County	Address	Zip Code
Rosebud	County Election Administrator Box 47 Forsyth, MT	59327-0047
Sanders	County Election Administrator Box 519 Thompson Falls, MT	59873-0519
Sheridan	County Election Administrator 100 W. Laurel Avenue Plentywood, MT	59254-1647
Silver Bow	County Election Administrator 155 W Granite, Room 208 Butte, MT	59701-9256
Stillwater	County Election Administrator Box 149 Columbus, MT	59019-0149
Sweet Grass	County Election Administrator Box 888 Big Timber, MT	59011-0888
Teton	County Election Administrator Box 610 Choteau, MT	59422-0610
Toole	County Election Administrator 226 1st Street South Shelby, MT	59474-1990
Treasure	County Election Administrator Box 392 Hysham, MT	59038-0392
Valley	County Election Administrator 501 Court Square, Box 2 Glasgow, MT	59230-2405
Wheatland	County Election Administrator Box 1903 Harlowton, MT	59036-1903
Wibaux	County Election Administrator PO Box 199 Wibaux, MT	59353-0199
Yellowstone	County Election Administrator Box 35002 Billings, MT	59107-5002

Promote The Vote

by Cpl Christopher Ballard, USMC